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Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-04 EB-11 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /051 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WHSIEFKEN:LJM
APPROVED BY AF/C:APALMER
---------- 043987
R 052038Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KIGALI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: VIP COMMUNICATIONS
REF: KIGALI 315

1. AF/C CONTACTED SOUTHCOM CONCERNING ONGOING PROBLEM OF EQUIPMENT. SOUTHCOM WILL BE CONTACTING SKODA, SOUTHCOM REP IN NAIROBI, GIVING HIM FULL BACKGROUND OF PROBLEM AND REQUESTING TMAT HE PERSONALLY GO TO KIGALI TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS AND NEEDS WITH GOR. HOPEFULLY SKODA CAN PROVIDE NEEDED EXPERTISE AND FAMILIARITY WITH SOUTHCOM EQUIPMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED SYSTEM SUITABLE FOR GOR NEEDS. WILL LET YOU KNOW AS SOON AS INFO ON SKODA RECEIVED FROM SOUTHCOM.
2. SOUTHCOM MAINTAINS THAT THE EQUIPMENT THAT THEY SOLD RWANDA IS BEST SUITED TO THEIR NEEDS AS SOUTHCOM UNDERSTANDS THEM. GOR REQUESTED SMALL UNITS SUITABLE FOR VEHICLE, AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTER. AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTER COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD CAUSE NO PROBLEM AS THEY ARE BASICALLY LINE-OF-SIGHT TRANSMISSIONS. SOUTHCOM MAINTAINS THEIR UNITS HAVE ADEQUATE POWER FOR SIZE OF RWANDA. SOUTHCOM UNDERSTANDS THAT PROBLEM OF INSTALLATION IN HELICOPTER HAS BEEN SOLVED ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT SURE ABOUT THE AIRCRAFT. CONCERNING THE INSTALLATION IN THE VEHICLE, SOUTHCOM UNDERSTANDS THAT THE PROBLEM OF THE INSTALLATION THERE
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HAS ALSO BEEN SOLVED.SOUTHCOM EXPLAINED TO GOR THAT IN VIEW

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OF RWANDAN TERRAIN PROBLEMS, IT WOULD OCCASIONALLY BE NECESSARY TO RELAY FROM BASE TO VEHICLE THROUGH HELICOPTER. LARGER UNITS WITH MORE POWER WOULD CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH MOBILITY, FRAGILITY AND MAINTENANCE. SOUTHCOM MAINTAINS THAT GIVEN PROPER USE OF FREQUENCIES AND ANTENNA (LARGER ANTENNA MAY NEED TO BE BUILT)PRESENT EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR MOST NEEDS. THEY FEEL GOR DECISION TO UTILIZE GRANGER ASSOCIATES TO DO INSTALLATION HAS CAUSED MUCH OF THE PROBLEM AS GRANGER NOT SOUTHCOM REP AND NOT FAMILIAR WITH THEIR EQUIPMENT. AF/C HAS STRESSED NEED FOR SOUTHCOM REP TO GO, ANALYZE PROBLEMS, AND MAKE SUITABLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO SATISFY GOR DESIRES. ALSO REQUEST CONFIRMATION THAT SKODA, SOUTHCOM REP HAS NOT REPEAT NOT VISITED KIGALI. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE118308
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WHSIEFKEN:LJM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740144-0237
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740672/aaaackaf.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: KIGALI 315
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIP COMMUNICATIONS
TAGS: ACOM, RW, US
To: KIGALI
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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